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L'Année Littéraire (1754-1790) comme intermédiaire en France des littératures étrangères, par P. VAN TIEGHEM. (Bibliothèque de littérature comparée.) Paris: F. Rieder et C^{ie}, 1917. Pp. 162.

According to Dr. Van Tieghem, this study "est destiné à faire connaître avec quelque précision le rôle qu'a joué le journal *L'Année Littéraire* dans la diffusion en France des littératures étrangères pendant la seconde moitié du XVIII^e siècle. Il se compose d'un Mémoire et d'un Index analytique."

The Mémoire is a study of the general characteristics of the *Année*. The value of the journal as a literary review is stressed, and tables are given showing the relative importance of the various foreign literatures and *genres* and the rise and fall of the number of contributions concerning foreign literatures. The attitude of the *Année* toward translations is discussed at length. The Mémoire contains a chapter explaining the ideas of Fréron and his followers as to the advantages and dangers of this foreign invasion. Dr. Van Tieghem also analyzes the aesthetic theory of the *Année* and gives its judgments on the principal foreign literatures as a whole and on certain foreign authors (Shakespeare, Young, Lessing, Goethe, and others) in particular. As a whole the Mémoire constitutes a very satisfactory chapter in the history of French literature.

The Index analytique professes to give "l'indication de tous les comptes-rendus ou annonces d'ouvrages étrangers, ou traduits des langues étrangères, ou se rapportant aux littératures étrangères, à l'exception de quelques ouvrages purement scientifiques et d'un certain nombre de grammaires." The incompleteness of Dr. Van Tieghem's list is revealed by an examination of the *Année* for two important years.

For the year 1769—"l'année la plus féconde"—the *Année* contains ten notices not mentioned in Dr. Van Tieghem's list of thirty-seven.

ENGLAND

1. *Seconde lettre de M. J. Blunt à l'auteur de ces feuilles*. Blunt maintains that Barthe, author of *Les fausses infidélités*, took both *sujet* and *fond* from *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.¹ (The first letter is listed by Dr. Van Tieghem in No. 71.)

2. *Vies des Pères, des Martyrs et des autres principaux Saints*. Translated from the English (Vol. 6).² Summary of several of the lives. Book highly praised.

3. *Parallèle de la condition et des facultés de l'homme avec la condition et les facultés des autres animaux*. Translated from the English by Robinet.³ (English author not named.) Man surpasses other animals through his reason, his sociability, his taste, and his religion. Each of these four is discussed in turn. The work is cited as well worth reading.

¹ *Année*, II (1769), 110-17. ² *Année*, II (1769), 103-16. ³ *Année*, V (1769), 97-112.

4. *L'Observateur français à Londres*, Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5.¹ Discussion of the English government.

5. *Ibid.*, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.² The English *mores*. Frequent suicides among the English, their strong sense of justice, enthusiasm for athletics. (The first volume of *L'Observateur* is noted by Dr. Van Tieghem in No. 224.)

GERMANY

6. *Essai d'une description générale des peuples policés et des peuples non-policés*. Translated from the German of M. Steeb.³ A sketch of the history of civilization. "La raison la plus saine et la plus lumineuse a dicté cet ouvrage."

7. *Histoire de la Russie*. Translated from the German.⁴ The German text is a translation of a Russian original by Lomonossow. Mildly praised.

8. *Mort de Gellert*.⁵ Announcement of his death, with an appreciation of the man.

OTHER COUNTRIES

9. *Zend Avesta*. Translated into French from the original *Zend*, with remarks.⁶ Announcement and short review.

10. *Kongs-Skugg-Sio, utlegd a Daunsku og Latinu, or Speculum Regale cum interpretatione Danicâ et Latinâ, variis lectionibus et notis*. Reviewed in a letter from Copenhagen.⁷ This work was written by a Norwegian royal minister for the instruction of his son. It is said to date from the twelfth century. It treats of the manner of life of the business men, of the court, of the clergy, and of the peasants.

For 1784—the year of the appearance of Volumes XIX and XX of Le Tourneur's translation of Shakespeare—Dr. Van Tieghem lists ten articles. Two omissions are to be noted:

1. *Évelina*, by Miss Burney. Translated from the English.⁸ Announcement only.

2. *Histoire des progrès et de la chute de la République Romaine*, by Adam Ferguson. Translated from the English.⁹ Useful but not remarkable for style or breadth of view.

If these two years are a fair test of the *Index*, one must conclude that the omissions are so numerous and significant that they very seriously impair its value. It is to be regretted that Dr. Van Tieghem in this part of his study does not reach the standard set by him in his monumental *Ossian en France*.

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¹ *Année*, VI (1769), 314–26.² *Année*, VIII (1769), 264–76.³ *Année*, III (1769), 3–20.⁴ *Année*, V (1769), 325–43.⁵ *Année*, VIII (1769), 350–51.⁶ *Année*, VI (1769), 91–97.⁷ *Année*, VII (1769), 346–50.⁸ *Année*, III (1784), 143.⁹ *Année*, VI (1784), 145–62.